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SPORTS

Winchester girls cross-country team makes history in state divisional meet

JOE MCCONNELL | SPORTS EDITOR

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Winchester High School cross-country coach Kirsten Healey's girls team proudly poses with the State Division 1B championship trophy and banner after coming in first last Saturday on the Wrentham Development Center cross-country 5,000-meter course. It was the first time in the history of the program that a team was able to accomplish the feat. COURTESY PHOTO/WINCHESTER HIGH SCHOOL/CROSS COUNTRY PROGRAM

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The Winchester High girls cross-country team has had a fall to remember, and it continued last Saturday, Nov. 8, when they captured the program's first State Division 1B championship on the Wrentham Development Center cross-country 5,000-meter course.

For the record, Coach Kirsten Healey's team went into the history books by edging out formidable Concord-Carlisle by a mere three points.

To accomplish this history-making moment, the Red & Black had four runners finish in the Top 10 in a race that included 135 competitors.

Freshman Millie McDonald (19:00.60) was the first Winchester harrier to cross the finish line in third place. Junior Julia Ramsey (19:03.70) was close behind in fourth place. Freshman Chloe Chan (19:24.30) came in seventh. Sophomore Caroline Lanz (19:31.40) accounted for a ninth-place finish. Michelle Su (20:25.60, 24th) completed the team's scoring that resulted in its first-place finish.

Abigail Bastein (20:30.20, 25th) and Alexis Machemer (21:15.80, 50th) were Winchester's other two runners in this race.

A total of 19 teams ran in this meet, and the Winchester girls once again topped the field with 46 points.

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The aforementioned Concord-Carlisle Patriots were right on their heels with 49. Wellesley was a distant third at 116, followed by North Quincy (153), Algonquin Regional (160), Arlington (173), North Andover (200), Natick (222), Chelmsford (253), Belmont (256), King Philip Regional (278), Peabody (295), Marshfield (338), Bridgewater-Raynham Regional (
Lincoln-Sudbury Regional (415), Woburn (424), Beverly (472), Spr
Central (561) and Barnstable (572).

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Boys compete with the state's elite

The Winchester boys ended up 11th out of 25 teams with 294 points.

Concord-Carlisle was at the head of the class in this race with 44 points. These Patriots were way ahead of second place Natick, who accumulated 70 points. Arlington (133), North Andover (172), Wellesley (207), Xaverian Brothers (209), Belmont (221), Westford Academy (223), Algonquin Regional (238) and Lincoln-Sudbury Regional (282) rounded out the Top 10 in Division 1B throughout the state.

There were 179 boys statewide participating, and Noah Damaske was the first Winchester runner to cross the finish line – 28th overall – in 16:47.80.

Tyler Bernstein (17:04.60, 47th), Noah Mannelli (17:18.00, 60th), Nikola Dimitrov (17:25.00, 64th) and Adel Halaseh (18:06.20, 99th) completed the Winchester scoring in the meet.

Callum Knowles (18:12.70, 105th) and Nate Bickford (18:25.90, 112th) also competed for the Red & Black, but did not factor into the final official scoring results.

The All-State Meet is next up for these two Winchester teams on Saturday, Nov. 15, at Fort Devens' Willard Park in Ayer.

Joe McConnell is a longtime, award-winning sports editor for numerous North Shore publications. He began covering Winchester sports for the News last November.

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Winchester boys basketball heads to Bridgewater-Raynham for Sweet 16 game after beating Lexington in postseason opener

It was the third meeting this year between Middlesex League boys basketball rivals Lexington (16-5, 11th seed) and Winchester (17-4, 22nd seed). They split the first two during the regular season, thus making this Round of 32 postseason matchup the impromptu rubber game of this year's series, with the

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March 3, 2026

SPORTS

Winchester wrestling enjoys Top 10 finish at state divisional meet; senior captains move on to All-States

After the Winchester High qualified wrestlers competed hard over two days last weekend (Feb. 20, 21) in the State Division 1 Meet at North Andover High School, Mother Nature gave them a break to rest and recuperate with Monday's blizzard that resulted in two days off from school. There

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Winchester boys hockey advances to the Sweet 16 after beating Wachusett in the tournament opener

The Winchester High boys hockey team (12-9-2), the 17th seed, edged the 16th-seeded Wachusett Regional Mountaineers (18-2-1), 5-4 in a Round of 32 Division 1 state tournament game at Westborough's Northstar Ice Arena on Feb. 25. The Red & Black will now take on top seed Catholic Memorial (18-2-1)

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February 27, 2026

SPORTS

With postseason starting Friday night, WHS boys hoop seniors English, Sarpong, Burbine join Middlesex League elite

The Winchester High boys basketball team, the 22nd seed, will take on Middlesex League rival Lexington, the 11th seed, to begin the Division 1 state tournament in the Round of 32 on Friday night, Feb. 27, starting at 6 p.m. These teams are so evenly matched, beginning with the

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February 26, 2026

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‘Chicago: Teen Edition’ dances onto the Winchester High School stage

By Talia Ho | Correspondent Fame. Fortune. And all that jazz. This spring, Winchester High School presents “Chicago: Teen Edition,” a bold musical that explores celebrity culture, media manipulation, and the cost of ambition. Set in the 1920s, this iconic production is sure to leave the audience wanting more. Performances will

SPECIAL TO THE NEWS

March 4, 2026

Ripley Chapel in Winchester presents ‘Syldason: You Are Welcome Here’

The following was submitted by the Ripley Chapel at First Congregational Church: On Friday, March 13, beginning at 7:30 p.m., live in-person and live streamed from the stunning Ripley Chapel at First Congregational Church, Winchester, 21 Church St., join in with Syldason, a duo concert featuring Sylvie Zakarian,

March 4, 2026

NEWS

Rep. Michael Day helps House colleagues pass sweeping energy affordability bill

The following was submitted by the Office of Rep. Michael S. Day: Rep. Michael S. Day and his colleagues in the House of Representatives recently passed energy affordability legislation that would result in over $9 billion in savings for utility ratepayers over the next 10 years. The bill maintains critical

March 4, 2026

NEWS

Winchester gun owners face new training rules starting April 2

Public safety data How Winchester compares on firearms licenses in comparable Massachusetts communities Active licenses as of Jan. 25, 2025 — Source: Massachusetts Criminal History Systems Board License to carry firearms Firearms identification card Winchester and Marblehead are the focus communities. Peers selected based on comparable population size, demographics and suburban

WILL DOWD | STAFF WRITER

March 4, 2026

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